

CLAIMS

1. A method of searching a document source, comprising the steps of:

providing a query;

creating a query pattern from an analyzed query;

searching the document source for documents which match the query pattern;

dividing the retrieved documents into subsets of similar documents, where each subset of the subsets of similar documents is described in terms of a subset pattern;

providing an ordered list of clusters based on the subset pattern of each subset of similar documents, wherein the ordered list of clusters includes separate clusters which contain similar documents retrieved in response to the query.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the separate clusters are provided to a user.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a log for each of the separate clusters.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the log is provided after the user retrieves one of the separate clusters.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the user retrieves documents from the clusters.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the searching includes parsing and interpreting words or documents in the document source.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the query is transformed into an event.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the query pattern is Boolean functions built from atomic formulas (words or phrases) where variables are phrases of text.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein each query pattern represents a set of documents, where the query pattern is "true".

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the query pattern is defined as any set of words

11. The method of claim 1, wherein each cluster of the ordered list of clusters includes a predetermined amount of documents.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein a maximum amount of clusters for viewing by the user is predefined.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the subset pattern of each subset of similar documents is selected from the group comprising:

- (vii) a 'logical or' of two patterns;
- (viii) a 'logical and' of two patterns;
- (ix) a 'logical difference' of two patterns;
- (x) a 'logical or' of a pattern and a string;
- (xi) a 'logical and' of a pattern and a string; or
- (xii) a 'logical difference' between a pattern and a string.

14. A system for searching a document source, comprising the steps of:

means for analyzing a query

means for creating a query pattern;

means for searching the document source for documents which match the query pattern;

means for dividing the retrieved documents into subsets of similar documents, where each subset of the subsets of similar documents is described in terms of a subset pattern;

means for providing an ordered list of clusters based on the subset pattern of each subset of similar documents, wherein the ordered list of clusters includes separate clusters which contain similar documents retrieved in response to the query.

15. The system of claim 14, further comprising means for creating an event from the analyzed query.

16. The system of claim 14, further comprising a means for controlling information from and to a user interface.

17. A machine readable medium containing code for searching a document source, comprising the steps of:

providing a query;

analyzing the query and creating a query pattern from the analyzed query;

searching the document source for documents which match the pattern;

dividing the retrieved documents into subsets of similar documents, where each subset of the subsets of similar documents is described in terms of a subset pattern; providing an ordered list of clusters based on the subset pattern of each subset of similar documents, wherein the ordered list of clusters includes separate clusters which contain similar documents retrieved in response to the query.